

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's apparent desire to remove limits on concentration of media ownership. The FCC's current proposals, as I understand them, would in effect lift any effective regulation on who can own what kind of media. A TV network could, for example, own as many newspapers, etc., as it wanted.

The current reconsideration of FCC rules is justified by the notion that we need proper "scientific" support for FCC regulations, support that is current and not "out-of-date." However, it really doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out one effect of any proposed change. There are finite numbers of TV stations, radio stations, etc., and in any one market there are de facto a limited number of profitable daily newspapers. If one person or corporation can own all the media outlets in a given market, then other people are deprived of any effective mechanism for accessing the mass public in that market. And the people in that market have no effective alternative source for their news and opinion, not to mention culture, etc. This can serve no one except the same wealthy parasites that already have too much control over the U.S. media.

If the FCC seriously wants to study the question of media ownership "scientifically," I suggest it begin by asking why minorities have so little access to media ownership. That would be a much more effective use of its time than simply helping already-wealthy media owners become wealthier.

Thank you for your time.